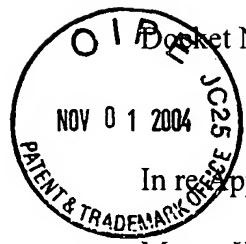


IFV



Docket No.: 60188-132

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masao KITAGAWA

Application No.: 10/021,039

Filed: December 19, 2001

For: NOISE REDUCING APPARATUS AND NOISE REDUCING METHOD

: Customer Number: 20277
:
: Confirmation Number: 9505
:
: Group Art Unit: 2624
:
: Examiner:
:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Each non-English language reference was first cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

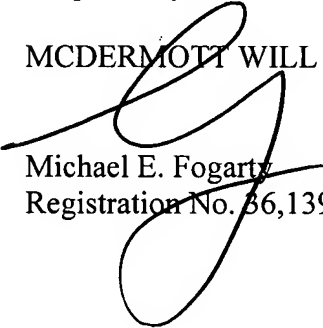
10/021,039

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Please recognize our Customer No. 20277 as our correspondence address.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 1, 2004



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
CITATION IN AN
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
60188-132SERIAL NO.
10/021,039APPLICANT
Masao KITAGAWAFILING DATE
December 19, 2001GROUP
2624

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US 5,610,729	03/11/1997	Nakajima	
		US 5,973,740	10/26/1999	Hrusecky	
		US			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number + -Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		EP 0 592 196 A2	04/13/1994	SONY CORPORATION		X	
		WO 98/41011	09/17/1998	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		X	
		JP 6-233266	08/19/1994	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		JAPAN (w/English Abstract)	

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.